

# Astro News

## Air Force first to launch from Kodiak Island

**Ronea Alger**  
Public Affairs Office

The Air Force made history Nov. 5 by launching for the first time a rocket from a new commercial spaceport complex on Kodiak Island, Alaska.

The launch put into orbit the atmospheric interceptor technology (ait-1) launch vehicle and payload. The ait-1 is an experimental Air Force project providing a threat representative trajectory against existing early warning radars on the West Coast of the United States.

The program is managed by the Space and Missile Systems Center Test and Evaluation Directorate's Launch Test Programs office and built by Orbital Sciences Corporation Launch Systems Group, Chandler, Ariz.

"This is the first time the Launch Test Programs Division has not only managed the acquisition of the launch vehicle and payload, but the logistics of supplying temporary facilities to range safety," said Lt. Col. Bob Kelsey, deputy director, Launch Test Programs Division and the ait-1 mission director.

The ait-1 is a two stage sounding rocket derived from the second and third stage of a deactivated Minuteman II rocket. The launch vehicle is approximately 37 feet 4 inches long and weighs approximately 22,000 pounds at liftoff. The booster stack consists of two solid rocket motors, the modified SR-19 with flexseal as the first stage and the M57 as the second stage.

The payload consists of five experiments including a Global Positioning

System antenna experiment, Honeywell IMU/GPS, Coherent Electromagnetic Radio Tomography, the Langmuir probe experiment and an Air Force nosetip.

The launch vehicle left the Kodiak Launch Complex and flew a south easterly course paralleling the West Coast. The highest altitude the launch vehicle reached was 462 miles about 515 seconds after liftoff. The total trajectory of the launch was 1,096 miles with a splashdown about 300 miles west of Seattle. The vehicle's total flying time was 979 seconds.

The organizations involved in the mission varied. The Space and Missile Systems Center provided the executing agent, coordinating sensor effort, ground safety and telemetry. The Air Force Research Lab provided the Langmuir probe experiment, the GPS patch antenna experiment and the Honeywell Integrated Flight Management Unit, while TRW provided scientific, engineering and technical advice to the Air Force. The Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation provided the launch facilities, spaceport and support services including weather observations and forecasting.

"With the crucial help and guidance of every team member, the launch was a success," said Capt. Brice Niska, ait-1 mission manager and team lead of the more than 40 different agencies, both government and industry, which provided launch support.

The next Air Force launch planned for the Kodiak Launch Complex is the ait-2 in August 1999.



Photo by Mike Bradford, TRW

**The Atmospheric Interceptor Technology (ait-1) launch vehicle goes through a formal dress rehearsal on the Kodiak Launch Complex's launch pad on Kodiak Island, Alaska. The launch vehicle was worked on horizontally in temporary facilities then lifted by a transporter into the launch position Oct 30.**

## Concerns over government travel card agreements abated

**Staff Sgt. Jeff Capenos**  
Public Affairs Office

Concerns about signing the card holders' agreement for the new NationsBank government travel card are being eliminated, said base finance officials.

"Anyone receiving the new government travel cards should sign the agreement, but not fill out the portion about options to obtain a credit report," said Staff Sgt. Antonio Gonzalez, Los Angeles Air Force Base Agency Program coordinator. "There has been concern about the new card holder's agreement requiring people to allow NationsBank to obtain a credit report on the indi-

vidual receiving the card.

"We've received guidance from Air Force Materiel Command that the agreement is fine. It's just that people should just leave the portion about obtaining credit reports blank."

The new travel cards, which replace the government American Express travel cards, are being delivered throughout the month. However, the new card is not useable until Nov. 29.

Base members who were in good financial standing with American Express as of Aug. 1 are currently receiving the new NationsBank card automatically. Any American Express cardholders who were delinquent but

not suspended or canceled from American Express will receive an alternative card. Cardholders who had suspended or canceled accounts as of Aug. 1 will have to go through the application process with their agency program monitor.

"The new card must be activated by the cardholders by calling (800) 311-7810," Gonzalez said. "If anyone hasn't received their new NationsBank travel card already they should call their agency program coordinator."

**Travel cards continued on Page 5**

# Message from Air Force Secretary to all SMC

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — As your acting secretary, I am acutely aware of the strains that life in today’s Air Force puts on you and your family. In recent months, I’ve visited many stateside and overseas bases to assess the readiness of our forces, and I’ve seen firsthand the effects of our high operations tempo.

My primary objective on these trips was to listen to your concerns; at each stop, I engaged in frank question-answer sessions with enlisted folks and officers alike. After each visit, I discussed your concerns with senior Air Force leaders to find solutions. Now, I want to share my impressions with you and discuss the things we’re doing to improve life in the Air Force.

What stands out most is the remarkable reservoir of energy, teamwork, talent and positive attitude I see in you and your loved ones. Despite the exhaustion of deployments and long hours of work at home, you have set aside personal ambitions and opportunities for greater financial rewards, faced separation from your family and placed yourself in harm’s way. I am extremely proud of what you’re doing for America, especially at this time when you must perform heroically with aging equipment and insufficient supplies.

It’s also clear to me that many of you are deployed too often. Or, you are overworked when at your home base because you’re doing both your job and the jobs of those deployed. Our increased operations tempo — the result of reducing forces by 33 percent while increasing deployments fourfold — has put heavy strains on you and your family. As Chief of Staff Gen. Mike Ryan and I said in August, you’ve done everything we’ve asked — and more — but we’ve been asking too much. This needs to stop, and it will, with our reorganization into an Expeditionary Aerospace Force, or EAF, over the next 12 months.

The EAF will significantly reduce the strains of OPTEMPO by spreading the load of deployments across the Total Force and by increasing the number of airmen assigned to specialties that frequently deploy. This organizational reform will provide you predictability and stability and, at the same time, will provide our warfighting commanders in chief more flexible, tailored and better-trained forces.

You’ll begin to see the benefits of the EAF in early 2000, when our Aerospace Expeditionary Forces are established and operating. At that point, OPTEMPO demands on our people will drop. The situation will improve even more over the next several years as we add 5,000 people to high-deployment career fields like

## Secretary’s Forum

F. Whitten Peters

Acting Secretary of the Air Force



security forces, civil engineering and communications.

The EAF will help us manage your OPTEMPO, but we know your family also needs help. We’ve worked hard to provide a wide array of information and services to help families deal with the strains of high OPTEMPO. Our family support centers seem to be working well, but many families are not aware of the services available.

We must do a better job spreading the word on how to get help. I’ve discussed this issue with commanders, senior enlisted advisors, chaplains and first sergeants, and I believe you’ll see more emphasis on getting information to your family.

While OPTEMPO is definitely on your mind, it’s only the tip of the iceberg. I’ve also heard about how the lack of spare parts is driving our maintainers to 12-hour days as the norm.

This situation is unacceptable and must be changed. To keep parts available, we’ve added about \$1 billion to spares and depot repair accounts since 1997, and we’re working hard to improve depot productivity. We’ve put spares and repairs high on the list of items for which we seek additional funding in fiscal years 1999 and 2000. It takes 18 to 24 months to turn money into spares, so our sustained emphasis on spares and depot maintenance funding should start to pay off soon.

What concerns me most, and what I am tracking most closely, is retention. Our retention rates are alarmingly low, and the reason seems clear. Many of you have told me that “erosion of benefits” is causing you to leave the Air Force. Whatever the reason, it’s clear that our success depends on being able to retain good people to operate and support our high-tech machines. We must make Air Force life more appealing than it currently is.

Think about this: Between now and 2001, 90 percent of our enlisted people, more than 265,000 airmen, will face a re-enlistment decision. If you’re one of them, or if you’re an officer about to make a career decision, please consider the following facts about benefits:

- First, we know military pay has lagged behind ci-

vilian pay, but change is in the air. The President, Secretary of Defense and Congress have committed to substantial pay increases over the next few years.

- Second, we’re working the retirement issue. General Ryan, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and I are pushing for retirement reform to ensure every military retiree receives adequate and equitable benefits. Congress already began debating a reversal of the 1986 “Redux” retirement cuts.

- Third, we’re working to improve TRICARE. I know the new system has had a rocky start, but I believe it’s getting

better as it matures. To make sure this is the case, I’ve asked the Inspector General to conduct an independent survey of TRICARE users in areas where TRICARE has been established for several years. I should have the results of this survey by early next year and will take prompt action if needed.

My point is we don’t want to lose you. If you are considering separating, please get all the facts (pay, benefits, job challenges and responsibility, future initiatives) and discuss your options with your families and other members of our Air Force team — co-workers, supervisors and commanders. I use the word “team” for a good reason. I worked in the private sector for more than 25 years, and I guarantee you will not find in most private-sector jobs the teamwork, high quality co-workers, trust and camaraderie you enjoy in your unit.

You owe it to yourself to “look before you leap.” Ask yourself these questions as you look: Do I enjoy the people I work with? Do I enjoy what I’m doing? Do I feel good about serving my country?

Our goal is to help you answer those questions so you, your family, our Air Force and America all win. If you can’t answer “yes,” tell us why. I know we won’t be able to resolve all your concerns, but we’ll do our best to focus resources where they have the greatest positive impact on our people and on national security.

We have the best people in the world, and thanks to you, our Air Force remains ready to perform its critical mission. But for too long, you’ve been forced to choose between your own needs, those of your family, and the needs of our Air Force. Gen. Ryan, Chief Benken and I will do all we can to ensure we develop and implement policies that help rather than hinder you in accomplishing the missions you perform so well.

I am honored to serve as your acting secretary. As I look to the future, I know it will be a team effort that will sustain our success. I’m counting on leaders at all levels to help our people overcome the significant challenges we face, but I’ll need the help of the entire Air Force team. I hope I can count on you!

## Astro News

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information.**



## News Briefs

*Editors note: The following two Air Force Print News articles are written by F. Whitten Peters, acting secretary of the Air Force, and Gen. Michael E. Ryan, Air Force chief of staff.*

### Thanks for making a difference

Last week, world events again caused America’s leaders to call on you to protect our nation’s interests abroad. As expected, our total force responded magnificently, with enthusiasm and professionalism. We were extremely proud as you showcased our readiness and capabilities — sending a powerful message to friends and adversaries alike.

Faced with tough challenges, you once again showed the remarkable versatility of our expeditionary aerospace force. On extremely short notice, we responded to the latest crisis in Iraq. At the same time, we helped our Central American neighbors cope with the catastrophic devastation of Hurricane Mitch and provided airlift support to our nation’s senior leaders.

Setting up the air bridges to Southwest Asia in both eastward and westward streams was a real test, made even more difficult by simultaneously performing the other missions. The rapid deployment of forces was a critical factor in resolving the current crisis and a great demonstration of our capacity to project aerospace power whenever and wherever needed. No other air force in the world could do what you just did. This is a real success story, and a tribute to the total force.

We salute your superb performance, which exemplifies our core values of integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do. As the Iraqi crisis recedes, we will keep faith with our commitment to you and quickly draw down forces no longer required. Thanks!

### Thanksgiving message

As we gather this Thanksgiving and reflect on the blessings we enjoy, we must also acknowledge the sacrifices of the men and women of our Air Force in assuring our security and freedom. Again this year, more than 90,000 Air Force members are stationed or deployed overseas, many separated from family and friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their loved ones as they perform their vital missions.

To all the members and family members of our great Air Force — active, Guard, Reserve, civilian and retired — thank you for your dedication and commitment. May you have a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

# Master sergeant gets eight years

**Airman 1st Class Chris McGiveney**  
Public Affairs Office

A master sergeant with a 22-year career in the Air Force will now serve eight years of confinement as a result of a court-martial here Nov. 5.

A Space and Missile Systems Center’s Intelligence Directorate Base Special Security Officer was sentenced to eight years confinement, forfeiture of all pay and allowances and a reduction to E-1 for the following Uniform Code of Military Justice offenses:

- Article 86 – Failure to go to place of assigned duty
- Article 92 – Wrongful use of the American Express Card
- Article 112a – One wrongful use of cocaine in December 1997 and one use in May 1998

## Security Forces blotter

### *October reports range from shoplifting to drug paraphernalia*

The following is a summary of Los Angeles Air Force Base Security Forces activities for October:

#### Absent without leave

A member of the Army voluntarily turned himself in for being absent without leave. The member’s unit was contacted, and it was determined the individual had been AWOL for three days. The soldier was issued a provisional pass, a plane ticket and instructions to report directly to his unit.

#### Shoplifting

A retired Air Force member’s wife was detained by an Army and Air Force Exchange Service store detective for shoplifting a \$20 watch. Security Forces confiscated the wife’s identification card, and her base exchange privileges were suspended. She was released to El Segundo Police Department and cited for petty theft.

An AAFES store detective detained a retired Air Force member for shoplifting an Air Force Times newspaper, valued at \$2.25. Security Forces responded and accomplished an incident complaint report.

#### Medical emergency

A fan fell from a bookshelf and struck a civilian base employee on the head. The individual sustained a cut on his forehead. El Segundo Fire Department paramedics responded. The individual received six stitches at the base clinic and was released.

#### Unauthorized government identification card

An Air Force member’s wife was detained at the

● Article 134 – Dishonorable failure to pay a just debt for eight checks written to the base commissary

The individual was found guilty by a panel of seven Air Force members during the Oct. 28 to Nov. 5 trial.

The investigation began when the master sergeant did not show up for work Dec. 9, 1997, said Capt. Dean N. Reinhardt, SMC’s Staff Judge Advocate’s base claims officer. A preliminary hearing on charges against the individual began May 21.

Approximately 32 witnesses were called to testify during the trial.

All trials are open unless otherwise directed by the military judge. Although there are no trials currently scheduled, if you would like to attend a future trial, call Tech. Sgt. Lisa Brookfield at 363-6454.

base exchange for unauthorized use of a government identification card. Investigation revealed the wife was using her mother’s card instead of her own. Security Forces accomplished an incident complaint report.

#### Communicating a threat

A retired Air Force member’s son was detained at the base commissary for threatening a retired Air Force member. Security Forces responded and accomplished an incident complaint report.

#### Possession of drug paraphernalia

An AAFES employee and two of her guests were detained at a gate for possession of drug paraphernalia. The paraphernalia was a homemade marijuana pipe. It was discovered in the hands of one of the passengers as the vehicle pulled up to the gate. Security Forces accomplished an incident complaint report.

#### Found property

Security Forces found a pair of roller blades and a pair of tennis shoes in the area of the youth center. The property was secured for safekeeping.

#### Property damage and chemical spill

A retired Navy member’s wife pulled away from the fuel pumps at the Base Exchange Service Station without removing the fuel nozzle from her vehicle. The fuel hose ruptured and sprayed gasoline onto a retired Air Force member, causing minor irritation to one of his eyes. The retired Air Force member was treated and released at the base clinic for his injuries. The minor fuel spill was cleaned up by AAFES personnel.

## Action Line 363-2255

The Action Line is your direct link to **Col. Dieter Barnes**, 61st Air Base Group commander.

The Action Line’s purpose is to make Los Angeles Air Force base a better place to work, live and play. Of course the fastest way to resolve any problem is to ask the person who can actually fix it.

Below is a list of people who can do just that:

<b>(Base Exchange)</b>	David Clore	640-0129
<b>(Base IG)</b>	Lt. Col. Stephen Marchitelli	363-0802
<b>(Chaplain)</b>	Lt. Col. Michael J. DiRenzo	363-1956
<b>(Civil Engineering)</b>	Maj. Angela Alexander	363-0287

<b>(Commissary)</b>	Al Cherry	363-6140
<b>(Communications Sqd.)</b>	Lt. Col. Mark Hall	363-0798
<b>(Equal Employment Opportunity Program Office)</b>		
	Leonard Gonzales	363-1565
<b>Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline</b>		363-2020
<b>(Housing)</b>	Tech. Sgt. Belinda Hines	363-8340
<b>(Logistics)</b>	1st Lt. George T. Unsinger	363-0351
<b>(Medical)</b>	Lt. Col. Mark P. Wisniewski	363-5005
<b>(Mission Support)</b>	Maj. Doug A. Stiegleiter	363-1230
<b>(Security Forces)</b>	Maj. Larry D. Bartlett	363-0032
<b>(Services)</b>	Gary L. Van Dusen	363-0430

<b>(Social Actions)</b>	Capt. Lisa D. Day	363-2806
<b>TRICARE</b>		363-0261
<b>24-hour Crime Stop</b>		363-2124

Try the system first. Work with your supervisor, first sergeant or commander — they are there to help. If you are not satisfied with the response or are unable to resolve a problem, call the Action Line. Your call will be recorded and if you leave your name and phone number, you will receive an answer.

Action lines of broad interest to the Los Angeles Air Force Base community will be published in the Astro News.

Travel cards continued  
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In addition to activating the card, members must also undergo a mandatory briefing by the end of November and sign an SMC Form 4. The SMC Form 4 indicates understanding of the proper use of the government travel card.

Use of the NationsBank travel card is limited for official government business, Gonzalez said. “And just like the American Express Card there are ways to make sure the card isn’t misused.”

With the new card comes a new Electronic Account Government Ledger System. This online system allows unit agency program coordinators to perform routine maintenance on accounts as well as request card transactions and optional reports to include the location of the last transaction, the amount charged, the date and any money machine withdrawal amounts and locations.

“The new EAGLS system makes it easy to monitor government credit card use,” said 1st Lt. Joel Hilden, base financial services officer. “Plus as time progresses, online access to individuals’ accounts are going to become available for individual card holders, so they can monitor what their account is doing.”

The Financial Services Office has distributed the government travel card briefing to agency program coordinators base wide. People are reminded the briefing is mandatory before using their new travel card. For more information about the travel card and briefing, contact your agency program coordinators.

Asian Pacific  
heritage luncheon...

Maj. Gen. Eugene L. Tattini, Space and Missile Systems Center commander (left), and his wife Jene, cut a cake with Ching Shelton, president of the Asian Pacific Association, here during the Asian Pacific American 11th annual awards luncheon Oct. 30 at The Club.



Photo courtesy of Asian Pacific Heritage committee

The new NationsBank travel card Agency Program Coordinators for Los Angeles AFB are:

UNIT	REPRESENTATIVES	PHONE			
LAAFB	Staff Sgt. Antonio Gonzalez (P)	363-6080	SMC/JA	Elaine Marquez	363-6461
BASE COORD.	Staff Sgt. Francis Calub (A)	363-6087	SMC/MC	Staff Sgt. Rico Pamintuan	363-4874
AFELM-RAND	Sgt. Les Dishmen	363-0410	SMC/MQQ	Tech. Sgt Diosdado San Pedro	363-2482
AFOSI	Josie Fonseca	363-1608	SMC/MQ	Delores Duncan	363-0375
SAF-PAWR	Master Sgt. Jeff Tornicelli	235-7509	SMC/MT	Tech. Sgt. Sean Denny	363-5511
SMC/AX	Master Sgt. Albert Sanchez	363-2211	SMC/MV	Master Sgt. Paula Harris	336-4592
SMC/BC	Charles Willett	363-2855	SMC/PA	2nd Lt. Tonya Summerall	363-0433
SMC/CCX	Master Sgt.Paul Dresser	363-2140	SMC/PK	Lisa Dyer	363-2473
SMC/CI	1st Lt. Eric Moomey	363-4352	SMC/XR	1st Lt. Mathew Mennell	363-2721
SMC/CL	Tech. Sgt. Todd Trabue	363-0166	SMC/AD	Staff Sgt. Peter Carreon	297-2804
SMC/ME	Master Sgt. Tracy Hudson	363-0166	60APS DET 1	Tech.Sgt. Richard Childress	363-1996
SMC/CWX	Lynn Chapman	363-6534	61ABG/CC	Staff Sgt. Von Aquino	363-5120
SMC/CZ	Staff Sgt. Norman Bautista	363-6299	61ABG/SF	Tech. Sgt. James Luellen	363-0033
SMC/FM	Senior Airman Andrew Sparks	363-1329	61ST CS	Tech. Sgt. Mark Amezquita	363-0786
SAF/SL	Judy Colbert	416-7547	61ST MED SQ	Master Sgt. Bruce Walls	363-1746
SMC/IN	Master Sgt. Malcome DeCruise	363-2952	61ST MSS	Capt. William Kelly	363-5066
			NIMA	2nd Lt. Mark Hedahl	363-8479
			AFSPC DET1	Staff Sgt. Edward Barrington	363-2278

# Leaders discuss government, commercial space industry at AFA Symposium

**Ronea Alger**  
Public Affairs Office

Building partnerships between the government and commercial space industries was the main theme addressed by top Air Force and industry leaders at the Air Force Association Symposium Nov. 13 in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Symposium speakers included Acting Secretary of the Air Force F. Whitten Peters; Gen. Richard B. Myers, commander in chief of U.S. Space Command and commander of Air Force Space Command; and Gen. George T. Babbitt, commander of Air Force Materiel Command.

The Air Force is entering a new and exciting era — an era where government and industry have pooled their resources in order to serve a combined military and commercial market, Peters said.

“The way forward must be greater cooperation between and among all government and industry sectors to ensure the vital commercial and national security interests in space,” Peters said.

Peters also added the pace and cost of Air Force operations has increased dramatically since the end of

the Gulf War, during a time when Air Force budgets have been flat or declining in real terms every year. During this same period, advances in space technology — and opportunities to use space in aerospace operations — have presented themselves at an unprecedented rate. Inter-agency partnering strategies are essential to taking advantage of these advances.

Peters cited the recent Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle award of four contracts valued at a total of \$3.03 billion to The Boeing Company and Lockheed Martin Corporation as an example of partnering success. EELV’s operability improvements over current systems will include a standard payload interface, standardized launch pads and off-pad processing. These capabilities result in the ability to significantly reduce launch costs while also creating a more operable and responsive spacelift infrastructure.

“Because Boeing, Lockheed Martin and the Air Force have each invested \$1 billion in developing EELV, the United States — both military and civilian; both government and commercial — will enter the 21st century with very capable, affordable expendable launch technology,” said the Air Force’s top civilian leader.

Myers spoke about integrating space in an uncertain era by looking at both long- and short-term moderniza-

tion efforts that are critical for space’s contribution to the next fight.

“One of those efforts is our number one acquisition priority, the Space-Based Infrared System,” Myers said. “SBIRS is a system of systems, each part of which is a ‘must-have.’ It’s the future of our early warning mission, and it’s vital to theater and national missile defense.”

Babbitt spoke about the need for transforming Air Force business practices.

“If we in the military are to be good partners with an industry driven by the pressure of business, we must become better businessmen,” Babbitt said.

The symposium also featured a panel discussion moderated by Lt. Gen. Lester L. Lyles, director of the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization. The panel included: Maj. Gen. Eugene L. Tattini, Space and Missile Systems Center commander; Lt. Gen. Ronald Kadish, Electronic Systems Center commander; K. Michael Henshaw, Lockheed Martin Missiles and Space president; and James F. Albaugh, Space and Communications Group, The Boeing Company.

The symposium ended with a luncheon with Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart, Air Force vice chief of staff, who spoke about aerospace power for an aerospace nation.

## General Horner addresses space support at SMC “Schoolhouse”

**2nd Lt. Kenny Decker**  
Developmental Planning Office

Space support to the warfighter was the topic at the Space and Missile Systems Center’s SMC “Schoolhouse” lecture held Oct. 22.

In his address, retired Gen. Charles A. Horner, former Air Force Space Command commander discussed how space was utilized in Desert Storm and its potential uses for the future.

“Space came of age in the Gulf War,” he said. “What space gave us was the ability to reconfigure the battlefield quickly. That is what we learned in Desert Storm.”

Specifically, he noted how the Global Positioning System and stealth capabilities have revolutionized warfare. However, he felt that we still do not know how to use them to their full potential.

As far as applying space in the future, he believes there are four main characteristics essential to counter future threats:

- 1 Future force must be rapid
- 1 We must have complete knowledge and understand who we are
- 1 The element of controlling the environment.
- 1 Finally, decentralization is necessary because, in Horner’s view, the

people closest to the battle should make the decisions.

Another focal point of his address was the importance of a ballistic missile defense.

“If I had to provide this country’s national security with one thing,” he said, “it would be an effective ballistic missile defense.”

Adding to this, he said the two most important aspects of warfare that must grow more than any other are space and air.

“Space is the key to modern warfare, but not the only element,” Horner said. “We need people to have vision to what air is about, just as we need people to have vision to what space is about.”

In conclusion, Horner elaborated on his view of the future. He felt that what will happen in space is a function of what happens here on earth. The long-term trend, he predicted, will be for violence to be less of an alternative to solving problems. If that happens, he believes that we will focus our efforts not inward, but outward.

“Right now space is almost totally focused inward,” he continued. “As a space force, we will focus outward.”

For more information on future “Schoolhouse” lectures call 2nd Lt. Kenny Decker at 363-2795.

## Honor Guard Elite

Senior Airman Annette L. Washington,

61st Medical Squadron Clinic outpatient records technician, joined the Los Angeles Air Force Base Honor Guard in September 1996. Washington was selected as the Warriors Honor Guard Flight Member of the Quarter for her outstanding accomplishments from July 1 to Sept. 30. She completed 39 hours of honor guard performances for military honors and ceremonies during this quarter. Her most recent performances included the Space and Missile Systems Center’s dining out Sept. 19 and the Long Beach Air Show Oct. 3.

Washington has been stationed here for three years and recently attended a one-week medical readiness training class to enhance her career. She is currently completing college classes for her bachelor’s degree in business management and plans to apply for officer training school.

Washington says the positive impact of the base’s honor guard has definitely been an inspiration for her to continue her career in the Air Force.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bill Gomez

## ¿Did you know?

### ● Where does the term "a feather in your cap" originate?

*It comes from the ancient custom of placing a feather in a soldier's cap for every enemy killed.*

### ● Why are aircraft storage buildings called "hangars" when planes don't actually hang in them?

*The word comes from the 16th century French "angar", which is an open shed for storing plows and similar objects. The French term is derived from the Latin "angarium" for "shed" or "stable."*

*(Courtesy of Armed Forces Press Service)*

### Civilian promotions

The following civilians were recently promoted or selected to a higher graded position: **Patricia A. Brown, Sharon K. Darco, Catherine C. Dozier, Marina R. Lozano-Gonzalez, Tadeusz J. Masternak, Melissa Nitschke, Lavivian Robinson, Marco N. Rodriguez, Judith Solorzano, Ariel Tonnu, Alan G. Wall, Barbara A. Wilkerson and Lloyd E. Wills.**

### Enlisted promotion

**Walter C. Adams**, from the Space and Missile Sytems Center’s Detachment 9, Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., was promoted to chief master sergeant.

### Star Quality Award

The October Manpower and Quality Office Star Quality Award winner is **Lorna DeLay.**

### Achievement Medal winners

The following people received Air Force Achievement Medals for duties performed as base augmentees during the change of base security to Department of Defense personnel:  
**Majors Russell S. Barker, James M. Crissey and Jason R. Ruesch; Capts.**

**Kristine Braswell, David T. Domingue, William E. Dorman, Alan M. Edmiaston, George W. Gering, George W. Irving, Todd P. Kee, Kee H. Lee, Ryan T. Myers, Michael Ramirez, Jose A. Rodriguez, Jose A. Rosario and Alvin L. Uttecht; 1st Lts. Omar E. Becerril, Jason E. Briggs, Richard A. Contreras, Wiley R. Cox, Emil D. Gawaran, Joseph C. Gueck, Stephen D. Hill, Jeffry A. Hollman, Frederick A. Hunt, Jeremy S. Kotkin, Vincent M. Krepps, Reginald J. Kuo, Jerome M. Ledzinski, Jeffrey M. Nishikawa, Charles J. Pacello, Michael L. Pray, Nithya Sieu, Jonathan E. Spence, James T. Stutz, Paul E. Swiencicki, Mark R. Tobin and Evan T. Watkins; 2nd Lts. Brian T. Bone, Martine M. Detro, Douglas Everson, Marc E. Herrera, James Lee, Charles F. McInnis, Jason J. Rafferty, Richard G. Saxon, Edward H. Simpson and Wendell D. Wilson; Master Sgts. Brent Carter and Marvin R. Martyn; Tech Sgt. Charles D. Howard; Staff Sgts. Winston R. Ashford, Brett D. Boyum, Patrick E. Britton, Mark A. Coon, Kyle C. Gordinier, Michelle D. Green, Scott M. Hammond and Daniel R. Parker; and Senior Airmen Edward Martinez, James A. Roehm, Thomas D. Thompson and Gregory S. Whitt.**

## Leading L.A.

### Tech. Sgt. Gerald D. Jones

is the noncommissioned officer in charge of the 61st Security Forces Squadron Resource Protection and Crime Prevention Section. Jones assists the Chief of Security Forces with Resource and Force Protection responsibilities and is responsible for overseeing community crime prevention. Community crime prevention includes processing criminal statistical data to determine criminal patterns, recommending crime prevention strategies and publicizing installation crime prevention programs. He also conducts training for all Unit Resource Protection Program monitors and helped in the conversion from the contracted security force to the Department of Defense Security Forces Squadron. Jones also serves on the 61st SFS Ceremonial Cannon detail and is an active member of the Parents and Teachers Association for Long Beach Unified School district.




Photo by Staff Sgt. Bill Gomez



# Couple celebrates gift of life

**John Ryan and Staff Sgt. Jeff Capenos**  
Public Affairs Office

Jay and Senior Airman Terri Honeycutt aren't taking life for granted anymore.

They're enjoying life based on their wedding vows "through sickness and in health."

Their new perspective comes on the heels of shared surgery the two underwent, when Terri, an optometry technician at the 61st Medical Squadron, donated one of her kidneys to her husband.

It all started in January when Jay began experiencing severe headaches and had a strange taste in his mouth. He thought he had the flu and didn't see any reason to go to the doctor. But, one day when he was picking up his wife from work, he mentioned he had a blind spot. Suspecting something serious, Jay immediately had some tests performed at the base clinic, and discovered his blood pressure was 240/138, a sign that a stroke was imminent.

Jay was immediately admitted to Centinela Hospital Medical Center, Inglewood, Calif., where further tests found Jay's kidneys had little function although the doctors could not determine the cause. Doctors said his kidneys may last a couple of months with proper medication, but a transplant was inevitable.

However, there is a three-to five-year waiting list for a kidney donor from the University of California at Los Angeles Medical Center. Also compounding the situation was Jay's high blood-toxin level and his need for dialysis.

"During this time it was important to get a donor as soon as possible," Terri said. "The doctors told us the best source for a donor would be a blood relative. However, that wasn't possible for us, and I decided to get tested.

"Several days later the results were in. I was a match," Terri said.

On August 18, both Jay and Terri were admitted to the hospital. The next day Jay received one of Terri's kidneys during a four-hour transplant operation at the

UCLA Medical Center. "We put our trust in God," said Terri. "When the doctors came into our rooms smiling we knew that the transplant had been successful."

Six days after the operation, both Terri and Jay were home recovering with the help of their family: Terri's 13-year old daughter, Nikki; Jay's mother and sister; and both of Terri's parents.

"Everyone pitched in," Nikki said. "I was proud of my mom, and I wanted to do my part to help her and dad get better."

But Terri discovered getting better took longer than anticipated.

"I was told by the doctors that the recovery process for the donor would be difficult since my body has to adjust to having one kidney," Terri said. "Doing even the simplest things were hard. Although it takes me a little longer to do things, it is great to get back to work."

"The first year is the most critical for recovery for both of us," Jay said, who is looking forward to going back to school in January to get his degree. "Our unwavering positive attitude makes it hard not to think that this will be an on-going success.

"I have an incredible second chance and owe my life to Terri."

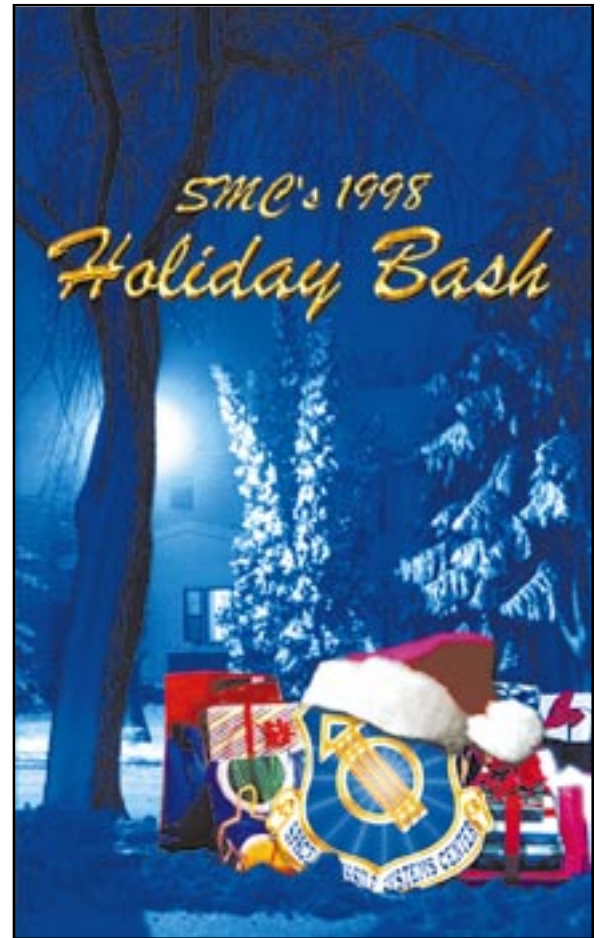
The Honeycutts would like to thank the many friends, family and co-workers who lent a helping hand and provided encouragement.

"Nikki was a great help," Terri said. "She was there all the time and never had to be asked. I don't know what we would have done without her help.

"We would also like to thank the Aerospace Medicine Flight at the clinic for covering for me," Terri said. "Without you, I would never have been able to have taken the time off."

For more information on how you can prolong someone else's life go to [www.transweb.org](http://www.transweb.org). People may also go the local Department of Motor Vehicles and register for organ donation. Also, the Red Cross is conducting a blood drive all day Monday at The Club.

## You're invited...



Graphic courtesy of Art Services

**The Space and Missile Systems Center's Holiday Bash is Dec. 5 from 6 p.m. to midnight at the Fort MacArthur Community Center.**

**The event will include food, music, a Karaoke contest and the chance for people to dance the night away.**

**Tickets are \$5 for enlisted and GS-8 and below; \$10 for officers and GS-9 and above; and \$17.50 for non Department of Defense and Aerospace employees.**

**For more information or to reserve tickets, please contact your Holiday Bash office representative or 2nd Lt. Julie Elenbaum at 363-2220.**

# Merrily, merrily, down the stream...

Rowing a boat is more than dream for one local athlete

**1st Lt. John Napier**  
Public Affairs Office

It's 5:30 a.m., the boat knifes through the mirrored surface of Los Angeles Harbor creating a wake that gently fades a few feet from the bow. The sun's first rays pierce the mist and warm the edge off the morning chill as one local officer accelerates away from the shore.

For 2nd Lt. Amy McCoy of Los Angeles Air Force Base, the typical day doesn't start in an office, but on the water of Los Angeles Harbor. McCoy is training to compete as a rower in the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia. She is one of the few elite Air Force athletes selected to train as part of the World Class Athlete Program. Her event is sculling in either the single, double or quad event.

"The first time I rowed while I was a (Air Force) ROTC cadet at Yale, I asked myself, 'How did I exist this far in my life without rowing?'" McCoy said. "I threw myself into it. It was my life in college, and I really loved it."

It remains the main focus of her life today as she works out at the Long Beach Rowing Association, Long Beach, Calif., practically every day in preparation for her potential appearance in the Olympics.

"My ultimate goal is the Olympics, but at the same time, it is not the Olympics. It boils down to: Can I go through this with integrity and knowing I gave it



Photo by 1st Lt. John Napier

**Second Lt. Amy McCoy, an Air Force Olympic trainee in the World Class Athlete Program, sets off for a morning workout in the Los Angeles Harbor.**

my all?" McCoy said.

The Air Force core values are an important part of her mental training as part of the WCAP. "I appreciate what the military teaches you about integrity."

Her integrity in rowing will also enter her professional career too. "I think I'll be a better officer when I return to my regular Air Force job," she said.

In the meantime, McCoy works hard at becoming the best rower she can be. Her workout typically starts with ergometry training or rowing at 5:30 a.m.

"I'm psyched when I wake up because I love what I'm doing," she said. "I've got really clear goals, and I know that every day makes a difference."

McCoy trains on the water up to three times a day for two to three hours at a time. Her workout also includes weight lifting three times a week. As focused as McCoy is, there are those rare days when the workouts don't go so well.

"There are days where it feels like

somebody dimmed the lights," she said. "It's all valleys and peaks, you definitely don't get bored."

One of her most memorable peaks occurred in her second year on the rowing team at Yale University, Connecticut.

"We were in a race for the collegiate nationals. We were in the last 500 meters, and the coxswain stopped yelling at us and all you could hear is the swoosh of the oars in the water," McCoy said. "After a long period of silence, the coxswain asked us, 'Do you guys want nationals?' At that moment, the boat all of a sudden picked up out of the water. We went from sixth to second place on that one call. We qualified for nationals. It was the most tremendous feeling."

Ian Simpson, men's and women's U.S.A. National team coach, trains McCoy at one of the most prestigious sites in the country.

Several Olympic national team mem-

bers have trained at Long Beach Rowing Association since 1932. The WCAP sends athletes to some of the best training sites in the country in hopes an Air Force athlete will compete in the Olympics.

"I'm glad the military has a program such as (WCAP) because it allows Amy to be successful. You have to be able to train full time in order to make the Olympics," Simpson said. "Amy is very enthusiastic. She has a good work ethic, and I think she gets that from her military training. She is the first military athlete I've coached, and I would take more if I could."

"The WCAP is a tremendous opportunity. I receive a lot of positive energy from everybody," McCoy said. "I wear my Air Force (athletic) uniform and people ask me 'Are you in the Air Force?' People think this program is awesome. It sheds such a positive light on the Air Force because it shows how it supports its people."



No, I got it...



Photo by Airman 1st Class Chris McGiveney

First Lt. Kip K. Kiefer, from the Launch Programs Office (CL) intramural football team, intercepts a pass intended for Capt. Jason J. Christ, from NAVSTAR Global Positioning System Joint Program Office (CZ), at the goal line, while Capt. Andy Sackett, from CL, backs Kiefer up at the base's intramural flag football championship, Monday behind Building 80. CL faced CZ for the second year in a row, but CZ won the title with two wins, 21-7 and 20-7. The top six teams advanced to the playoffs.

1998 FOOTBALL FINAL STANDINGS

TEAM	WIN	LOSS	RANK
MC	10	0	1ST
CW	9	1	2ND
XR/AD	7	3	3RD
CL	7	3	4TH
CZ	6	4	5TH
LA EXPRESS	5	5	6TH
61 CS	4	6	
CI	3	7	
AX	2	8	
MT-Forfeited	2	8	
61 SFS-Forfeited	0	6	

Sports Shorts

Turkey bowling

A nine-Pin No-tap "Turkeyshoot" Thanksgiving bowling tournament is today from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Gable House in Torrance, Calif. The tourney is hosted by the Space and Missile System Center's Launch Program office. The event is open to spectators. For more information, call Senior Airman Raminah Hartke at 363-6925.

Ice Dogs hockey trip

There will be a trip to see the Long Beach Ice Dogs hockey team take on the Las Vegas Thunder of the International Hockey League at Long Beach Arena Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m. Deadline for signing up is Nov. 30. The tickets cost \$16 and will benefit the Los Angeles Air Force Base's Operation Gift for families in need during the holiday season. Contact Master Sgt. Paul Dresser at 363-1942 or Rick McGilton at 363-0959. Donations will benefit those wanting to attend but are financially unable.

The event is sponsored by the base's Air Force Sergeants' Association.

Lady Hawks in action...



Photo by Airman 1st Class Chris McGiveney

Leone R. Posod, a Fort Mac Lady Hawks team member, bumps the ball during a practice while teammate Christin N. Ashford backs her up. The team is made up of girls in grades seven and eight, from Dana Middle School. The next game is Monday at 3:30 p.m at the Dana Junior High School. For more information call Ronnie Wade at 363-8383.

# Keep food safe during holidays

**Master Sgt. Robin Williams**  
61st Medical Squadron

During this busy holiday season, making the super-market the last stop before going home is the first step in keeping food safe from bacterial growth. The following tips may prevent a bacteria invasion:

- At the checkout counter request your refrigerated and frozen food products be packed together. This will reduce thawing and allow you to put them away first after arriving home.
- If adding a lot of food to the refrigerator or freezer, check the temperature in those compartments after one hour to maintain approximately 0 F in the freezer and the 40 F in the refrigerator.
- Keep the refrigerator closed when not in use
- Food placement in the refrigerator can prevent

contamination. Place raw meats in the lowest part of the refrigerator; meat drippings that fall into prepared foods could lead to a food-borne illness.

- Ensure that all kitchen counters have been thoroughly cleaned with a chlorine solution or brand name antibacterial cleaner.
- Prepare uncooked items, such as salads, in a separate area of the kitchen or before preparing other foods. This will prevent the spreading of germs from uncooked items to prepared items.
- Remember to wash hands and all utensils, cutting boards and food preparation areas after exposure to any raw meats or when switching from one food item to another.
- The best way to thaw meats is in the refrigerator because germs can grow on the outside of the meat while its frozen inside.
- Plan ahead. Remember it may take two to four days to thaw a 20-pound turkey. For those who forget to buy your turkey until the day before Thanksgiving, or who accidentally burn your first turkey, you may have to “rapid thaw” it. If this is the case, make

sure to use a sanitized kitchen sink. Have a continuous, slow flow of cold water over the meat until it is completely thawed. Check periodically to make sure the outer portion of the meat does not exceed 40 F.

- Plan out your holiday cooking. Look for the recommended cooking time and temperature on the package, and use a thermometer to ensure the internal cooking temperature reaches at least 145 F.
- Leftovers should be taken from the proper serving temperature of 140 F or more and cooled to 40 F or below as soon as possible. Reheat leftovers up to 165 F to help kill any germs
- Do not cover dishes in the refrigerator. A covered dish holds its temperature longer, therefore, not cooling down rapidly. For larger items break them down to prevent bacterial growth.
- Be sure to heat leftovers up to 165 F to help kill any germs and rotate food being mircrowaved.

If you have questions about food preparation or various causes of food-borne illness and its prevention, contact the Public Health Office at 363-3936.

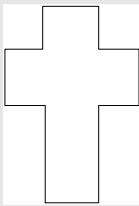


# Chapel Schedule

**Roman Catholic**  
Saturday: Sacrament of Reconciliation at 3:45 p.m., Mass at 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday: Mass at 9 a.m., CCD in Building 37 at 10:30 a.m.

**Protestant**  
Sunday: Sunday School at 9 a.m., Building 37; General Protestant worship at 10:30 a.m.

**A Thanksgiving service will be held at The Club's Daedalian Room Nov. 23 at 11:30 a.m.** Base personnel are invited to bring non-perishable food items to help needy families. For more details, call Chaplain (Maj.) Ray Johnson at 363-1956.



**The Fort MacArthur Community Center has information packets for the annual Air Force photography contest, which ends Jan. 31, 1999.** The contest is open to active-duty military and their family members. Call the community center at 363-8225 for more information on the rules, categories and requirements for submissions.

**The Congressional Awards program is a non-competitive program open to all 14- to 23-year-olds in the United States** – regardless of prior achievements, life circumstances, physical or mental abilities. The Congressional Award recognizes young people for achieving individual goals in four program areas: voluntary public services, personal development, physical fitness and expedition and exploration. Bronze, silver and gold medals are presented by United States Senators and members of Congress during local, state and national ceremonies. For more information on the program or if you are 24 or older and would like to be an advisor, please call Shenethia Carter at 363-8225.

**Due to the new government travel card contract, effective Nov. 30, services facilities will no longer accept American Express credit cards.** This includes government and personal American Express cards.

Temporary duty or permanent change of station travelers must present the new government Visa card at lodging facilities when checking in prior to Nov. 29 and checking out Nov. 30 or later. The traveler should bring their account up to date prior to Nov. 30 and use the AMEX card for that portion of the payment. For more information, call Capt. Kristine Braswell at 363-0430.

## The Club

**The Club's Boss and Buddy Night is Nov. 20 from 4:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.** Free bar snack and beverage specials will be offered and a I will play your favorite tunes.

**Taste test new foods at The Club Nov. from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** Various vendors v provide food samples for customers to rate. Tl highest rated foods may be added to The Club' menu. The taste testing is free for members and \$4 for nonmembers.

**The Club will host a Member's Ap-**



**preciation Breakfast Dec. 10 from 6 to 8 a.m.** The menu consists of scrambled eggs, home fries, bacon, sausage or ham, oatmeal or grits and toast. This breakfast is free to all members.

**Club members can put their** name and phone number on the back of all club receipts throughout December and drop it in the "Turkey Box" to be eligible for free turkeys or hams

**The Barber Shop in Area A is located in Building 120.** It is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. They accept your club card for payment. For more information call 363-1733.

## Vet Clinic

**The veterinarian is scheduled to be at the Fort MacArthur Vet Clinic Nov. 20, Dec. 4 and 18 and Jan. 8 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Call 363-8269 to schedule an appointment. Please leave a message on days the clinic is closed. State your name, phone number, animal name and species as well as what kind of appointment is needed. The clinic will call you back with an appointment date and time.

## Youth Services

**Family Bingo Night will be held at the community center Nov. 20 from 7 to 9 p.m.** Cost is 25 cents per game, and there will be 10 games. Play bingo for prizes, buy dinner from our snack bar and have a great time with your neighbors.

**Make-a-Puzzle Night at the community center is Nov. 23 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** The event is open to members, ages 5 to 12, and costs \$2 per child.

**A trip to Chuck E. Cheese is Nov. 27.** Meet at the youth center. Have fun, food and play games! Bring extra money if you want more than 15 tokens. The cost is \$7 for members and \$10 for nonmembers, ages 5 to 12.

**The youth center Craft Night is Dec. 2 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** You can make a Christmas craft that will be ready to take home at the end of the session. The craft night is open to members, ages 5 to 12, and costs \$2 per child.

**Parents Night Out will be held at the youth center Dec. 4 from 7 to 10 p.m.** The menu includes a make-your-own-pizza. There will also be a ginger bread house making activity, games and a movie. This event is open to children, ages 5 to 12. Cost is \$6 for members and \$9 for nonmembers.

**Kids Connection Volleyball Night will be held at the teen center, Building 451, Dec. 7 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** This is a free event to youth center members and \$3 for nonmembers. Volleyball night is for kids, ages 5 to 12. Parents are welcome and encouraged to participate.

**The youth center will make cards and cookies Dec. 9 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.** This is a members-only event and costs \$2 per person and is open to children, ages 5 to 12.

**The teen center's Chatter Box and Holiday Craft Night is Dec. 9 from 6 to 9 p.m.** at the teen center. Share your thoughts with other teens and the center's staff. Stay for the gift-making session that follows the discussion. The event is free for members and \$3 for nonmembers.

## Child Development Center

**The Fort MacArthur Child Development Center is hosting a Harvest Feast and Festival Nov. 24 at 11 a.m.** All parents of children enrolled at the CDC are invited to have lunch with their kids. Please reserve your place to the center by Nov. 23. The CDC will have a Harvest Festival following the feast from 1 to 3 p.m.



**Parents are invited to participate in the annual teddy bear pictures at the Fort MacArthur Child Development Center Dec. 3 to 4.** Call 363-8335 for prices.

**The El Segundo Child Development Center sponsors a book fair during the week of Dec. 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Parents will be able to select and purchase books for their children. The CDC staff will be available to assist parents in choosing books that are age appropriate.

**The El Segundo Child Development Center hosts a pajama literacy party to encourage a love for reading Dec. 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.** Parents are invited to come and read to the children. Puppet shows will be held in the classrooms as well.

**The Fort MacArthur Parent Advisory Board meets at the Fort MacArthur Child Development Center Dec. 15 at 5 p.m.** The PAB meets the third Tuesday of each month. All parents of children enrolled at the Fort MacArthur CDC are invited to attend.

**If you enjoy children and are interested in working at home, you might consider doing family child care.** The Air Force provides you with free child development training. If you would like more information, call 363-8334.

## The Community Center

**A new area is available for private parties beginning Dec. 7** at the new community center annex, located next to the Fort MacArthur Fitness Center in Building 425. The space will open in the spring for daily use, but is opening early for private functions for the holiday season. To reserve your date or for more information, call 363-8225.

**The Community Center will be decorating for the holidays Dec. 1 from 5 to 9 p.m.** Volunteers are welcome to help. All decorations will be provided.

**The Community Center takes a tour to the San Diego Outlet mall Dec. 5.** The tour leaves at 8 a.m. and returns at approximately 5 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person and is open to any identification card holder. The sign-up deadline is Dec. 4. A tram will also be leaving from the mall to go shopping in Tijuana, Mexico.



**The Community Center**

**The community center has a Game Night Dec. 8 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** in the Harbor View Lounge. This event is free and open to all identification cardholders, 18 or older, and their guest. Several board games and cards will be available, or bring your own.

**Come to a craft instructional class at the community center Dec. 9 from 6 to 8 p.m.** and make holiday wreaths. The cost to participate is \$15, which includes all supplies. This event is open to all identification cardholders and their guests.

**The community center is interested in knowing what TV show tapings people would like to go to.** Upcoming tours include the Jeopardy Game Show Dec. 16 and Moesha Jan. 7. Call 363-8225 for more information.

**The community center's**

**library is open Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** and Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m. The volunteer library is also looking for help.

**A New Year's Eve Bash is Dec. 31 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Community Center.** The bash is free and open to all military identification card holders 18 years and older.

**The picnic area at the base pool can still be reserved.** The cost is \$5 per cabana. A refundable cleaning deposit of \$25 is required. To make reservations, call the community center at 363-8225.

**Equipment Rental**

**The December Tickets and Information and Equipment Rental combination special is:** Buy a ski lift tickets for Mountain High and Bear Mountain and receive the skis, boots and poles for \$8.

**The base operates a family campground with 14**

hardstand units with hookups for water and electricity. It is open year round and reservations are accepted. The camp is located two miles south of the base between Marine and Rosecrans Avenue on Aviation Boulevard. The cost is \$8 per day. To make reservations, please call 363-2190.

**Auto Skills Center**

**The base's Auto Crafts Center offers a winter preventive maintenance special.** The special includes lube oil and filter change, checks on fluid levels, tires, belts, hoses and antifreeze. The cost is \$18 and is available for most cars. Call 363-1705 for an appointment.

**The Area B car wash is open.** The price is \$1.50 for a wash and 25 cents for a vacuum. One of the two stalls is convenient for recreational vehicle washing. The car wash is located at Bulding 214, in front of the Auto Skills Center.

**Hurricane relief...**



Photo by Airman 1st Class Chris McGiveney

**Tech. Sgt. Rafael Lopez, 61st Air Base Group Command Post's noncommissioned officer in charge of operations, loads up a van of donations from the base to help the Hurricane Mitch survivors in Honduras and Nicaragua. Non-perishable food items, clothes, blankets were donated to help relief efforts. If you have any questions or donations, please contact the 61 Mission Support Squadron's Orderly Room at 363-0695/0696 or the 61 ABG Command Post at 363-2353.**

**The Recruit-the-Recruiter team from Air Force Recruiting Service at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas will conduct a briefing here Dec. 4 from 9 to 11 a.m. in Building 219, Room 1507.** The briefing, for senior airmen through technical sergeants, focuses on the opportunities, challenges and rewards of recruiting duty. Spouses are encouraged to attend. The base point of contact is Senior Airman Anita M. Espinosa at 363-5393. For more information, call the RTR team at DSN 487-3511/3512 or (210) 652-3511/3512.



**Applications are being accepted for the 1999 Air Force Worldwide Talent Contest.** The purpose of the Air Force Worldwide Talent Contest is to identify entertainers, technicians and staff personnel to tour with Tops in Blue '99. The performers also compete for the Air Force Roger Trophy recognizing the top talent in five separate entertainment categories. For more information, call 363-8383. Submit applications to the Air Force Agency by Dec. 1.

**The legal assistance hours have been changed to include afternoon hours.** Appointments are scheduled for half-hour blocks between 7:45 and 10:15 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday, and between 1 and 3:30 p.m. Monday and Thursday. To make an appointment call 363-0916/1272. Walk-in legal assistance is still provided for those who arrive Wednesday between 7:45 and 8:45 a.m. Notary and power of attorney service will continue to be provided every day from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Legal assistance is still provided for personal, civil legal problems to all active duty members, their dependents, retirees and retiree dependents, to reservists and National Guard members on federal active duty, to the next-of-kin of members killed on active duty and to Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets who must meet dependent care responsibilities.

**The base's Legal Office is recruiting volunteers for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program for the upcoming tax season.** The program is designed to help all active-duty military personnel, their dependents and retirees, to prepare their income tax returns. Volunteers will serve as unit tax advisors and will answer questions, help others complete federal and state tax returns, provide forms and electronically transmit returns. Volunteers may be military members or civil service employees. Training on federal tax returns is Jan. 11 to 15 and for California returns Jan. 20 to 22. Volunteers will be willing to help members of their unit with their tax returns and walk-in tax clients at the legal office. Call Capt. Robert Kearney at 363-6460 if you would like to volunteer.

**A Scouting-for-Food Drive sponsored by Pack 665 from Fort MacArthur will be picking up donations of canned foods and usable clothing at all base housing areas Nov. 21 by 9 a.m.** Please fill bags and place them outside your door. For more information call Michelle Castleman at (310) 519-7379.

**The Air Force Office of Special Investigations is recruiting qualified individuals to become special agents.** The AFOSI conducts criminal, fraud and counterintelligence investigations on behalf of the Air Force.

In the recently announced fiscal 1999 NCO Retraining Program Phase II (voluntary), many people are eligible to apply for the AFOSI. Those eligible are officers, senior airmen and senior airmen selects with less than six years military service; and staff sergeants, technical sergeants and master sergeants with less than 12 years of service. For more information, call Special Agents Rick Bergeron or Gene Ronningen at 363-3929 or 363-5169.

**The Los Angeles Air Force Base Noncommissioned Officers Association chapter is holding its first silent auction Dec. 2 to 4** from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the The Aerospace Corporation

cafeteria. Proceeds go to benefit the base's enlisted recognition program. For more information, call Master Sgt. Ed Cotto at 363-0165.

**The housing referral office wants to conduct a seminar featuring apartment rentals, veterans' affairs information and home buying.** If you are interested in attending this seminar, call Georgia Hutton at 363-8397.

**The Government, Business, Education and Technology Expo 1998, an information technology conference and trade show, is Dec. 8 to 11** at the Los Angeles Convention Center's West Hall. The event is free and will feature state-of-the-art displays, hands-on pavilions and more than 450 booths from technology companies. Seminars and workshops about technical and management topics will be provided on subjects including: technology trends, elementary to university level education, Internet and electronic commerce, disaster preparedness, government management, year 2000 challenges and more. For more information, visit the GBET '98 website at [www.gbet.com](http://www.gbet.com).

**The 61st Medical Squadron Put Prevention into Practice Office is observing Diabetes Education Month throughout November.** People are encouraged to find out more about this debilitating disease by stopping by the PPIP Diabetes Education display and pick up some educational brochures on diabetes. The display is at the base exchange Tuesday and the commissary Nov. 30. For more information, call the PPIP office at 363-2439.

**The Los Angeles Air Force Base Optometry Clinic is now open.** Dr. Clinton Anderson is the new optometrist. The clinic now has appointments for all active duty personnel and space available appointments for TRICARE Prime members. Hours of operation at the clinic are Monday through Friday from 7 to 11:45 a.m. and 12:45 to 4 p.m., except the holidays. To schedule an appointment call Senior Airman Terri Honeycutt at 363-2485.